

# **Commission on Emergency Planning and Response Minutes**

## **Thursday, March 11, 2010**

### **Members Present:**

Jack Taylor, CEPR Chair, Fire Fighters  
John Prather, CEPR Vice-Chair, Transportation, Trucking or Rail  
Major General Tod Bunting, Adjutant General  
Sandy Johnson, representing Josh Svaty, Director, Department of Agriculture  
Carole Jordan, Department of Commerce  
Peter Carttar, representing Catherine Patrick, Kansas Department of Transportation  
Captain Eric Pippin, representing Col. Terry Maple, Kansas Highway Patrol  
Dan Thompson, representing Dan McLaughlin, State Fire Marshal's Office  
Alice Weingartner, representing Elizabeth Ticer, Public Health  
George Teagarden, Animal Health Department  
Ken Keller, Emergency Medical Services  
Ken Schremmer, Counties  
Melissa Dinsmore, Hospitals  
Sonia Jordan, representing Mindee Reece, Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Dave Sterbenz, representing Pat Collins, Region Councils  
Patricia Eakes, Disabilities  
Paul Sasse, Cities  
Tim East, representing Steve Hedges, Wolf Creek  
Warren Porter, Public Works

### **Members Not In Attendance:**

Clayton Huseman, Agriculture, Crop or Livestock  
Dr. Lyle Noordhoek, Business/Industry  
Karen Schuyler, Business/Industry  
James Heitschmidt, Law Enforcement  
Jim Ogle, Broadcasters

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Jack Taylor Chair**

Meeting was called to order at 10:08 am; Tina Fike (staff) called the roll.

### **Consent Agenda Review**

Minutes of previous meeting  
County Emergency Plans (CEOP) report  
State Hazard Mitigation Committee report  
LEPC Appointment Committee report  
HLS Working Group Committee Report  
Spill Report

Jack Taylor moved and Maj. Gen. Bunting seconded that the consent agenda be accepted. The motion passed.

### **Remarks from Committee Members/Public**

--Paul Sasse:

- discussed his upcoming retirement.

--Randy Duncan:

- spent last week in Washington DC;

- gave testimony in front of US Transportation;
- mentioned 2011 budgets - not all positive news

--Patricia Eakes:

- old job, emergency preparedness, went away as of January 1st, going to continue doing on own time;
- Set up brand new website - [www.kansasemployability.com](http://www.kansasemployability.com)

--Leo Henning:

- discussed his representation of the environmental side of things.

--Tim East:

- discussed electronic issues that have come up.

--George Teagarden:

- has been out on the road, FAD 101 – coordinate with emergency managers, the purpose is to educate and bring people into the polls;
- Also discussed a border closing meeting, and how George will be replaced by Dr. Bill Brown May 1<sup>st</sup>.

-- Major General Tod Bunting:

- mentioned the latest Federal Declaration;
- Crisis City will be open in April, there will actually be a search and rescue exercise preceding the opening, at the end of this month;
- A new truck has been purchased. Plan to talk about status of safety prepared schools. Also, search and rescue teams doing class – starting next week Tuesday.

--John Prather:

- there was a Biannual Homeland Security Summit in Wichita in December;
- The Frontier Community Advisory Panel will be having quarterly meetings with the community;
- TransCAER (Community Awareness and Emergency Response Training) – Crisis City is in the running for possible venue location, summer 2011. In Albuquerque, NM there was a demonstration - electronic inspections of commercial transportation.

--Bob Blecha:

- there is a new analyst in the fusion center;
- Kansas Intelligence system now has 30 law enforcement agencies online, 15 more are in the process.

--Dan Thompson:

- discussed hazardous materials, working to fill hole in Wolf Creek response.

--Sonia Jordan:

- talked about the temporary shutdown of the business that occurred due to H1N1.

--Warren Porter

- brought up that there have been 3 federally declared disasters over the 2009-2010 time periods (5 since 2008, 7 since 2007, 10 since 1998). FEMA has provided \$5.1 billion in aid over that time.

--Ken Keller:

- the Kansas Neurological Society and Board of Nursing is getting involved with EMS. Background checks are being considered.
- Mentioned the Scope of Practice Act, Steve Sutton is now acting director. Dale Watson retired and is having health issues.

--Alice Weingartner:

- Discussed the hundreds of thousands of doses of H1N1 vaccine that have been given to children, interest is waning. This vaccine will be included in next season's flu vaccines.

--Carol Jordan:

- Mentioned working with the Department of Agriculture when needed, discussed ARRA dollars, dealing with broadband internet.

--Jack Taylor:

- Talked about the memorandum (in packet) and mentioned that the next meeting will be May 26<sup>th</sup> at Crisis City where there will be selection of the chair. Also, the Business and Industry Forum will coincide with the meeting at 1pm.

--Jennifer Clark:

- discussed the 2009 'Managing the Risk' document (handed out), mentioned several articles including: KPT article of Pan Flu, regional council updates article, disaster articles, H1N1 update;
- Also discussed the Spill Database meetings - haven't come to the ideal solution but have found a solution to meet their needs. Currently entering data by hand, but creating web service to get information from database to the users; KDHE is waiting on grant but expecting to find out about the grant in March, receive in August.

--Anthony Fadale, ADA Coordinator for SRS:

- Talked about the new proposed ADA requirements, they have not gone into effect yet; urged people to continue using current ADA standards until proposed rules go into effect. The current and proposed standards can be found at ADA.gov website. Also, mentioned an invite he received to the National Council on Disability's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in July.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Public Assistance/ Disaster Update**

**Steve Harsha**

A slide show outlined the 2009 severe winter storm incidents.

- In 2009 there were four declarations, working on fifth
- The office has moved
- Originally though \$11 million, actually \$18-\$20 million in damage occurred
- Following Dec 21st to 25th snowstorm, sub freezing temperatures occurred, more snow followed (Jan 4th or 5th)
- FEMA is very restrictive on snow removal cost however record or near record snow can pick most advantageous 48 hour period for costs
- Awarded recognition for record snow in several counties - 6 counties that were thought to have met cost threshold were disqualified. Will work harder to meet threshold.
- Hold on permanent work - repairing roads, infrastructure.
- KDOT has provided \$2.5 million in snow removal costs.
- No money to pay completed work until funds push forward

### **Public / Private Partnership**

**John Prather**

The TransCAER Website recognizes Kansas nationally as a leader.

The Whistlestop Tour (paper)

- The Highway Patrol was represented at each one of the 10 stops
- In rural KS, Highway Patrol is usually first on the scene - Hazmat training would be important

John asked Ken about background check criteria - everyone will be subject to the background check and fingerprint. John asked if it was similar to the Transportation background check which includes a biometric identifier - no. Ken talked about the possibility of the workers being required to have a commercial driver's license.

### **COOP Working Group Committee Report**

**Brandt Haehn**

A slide show presented the outcomes - where at, what to do to sustain outcome.

- Outcome 1: frequent evaluation of COOP Staff
- Outcome 2: challenge to figure out how to maintain with budgets being how they are. Goal - plans all need to talk together
- Outcome 4: need a place where everyone can see info - suggests KDEM website
- Outcome 5: Webinar Wednesdays - get training every Wednesday
- County COOP Project - Have the opportunity to get same project though state as through counties, puts responsibility on county departments

### **Deployable Resources Report**

**Bill Brubaker**

A slide show presented information on the working groups.

- Working groups meet quarterly
- Each task force has been presented with a search camera (\$12,000 each)
- Possibility of including a One on driver's licenses
- Database progress - slow because wanting to make sure do it right the first time (plan: a year or two until working system)
- Mississippi looking at setting up local state IMT similar to ours
- Law Enforcement Charter (in packet) - looking for one voice and strategy for work groups

Questions:

Randy Duncan asked - how will you be handling identifying active/available resources? Let locals decide, doesn't know for sure yet. The goal is that someone will click on the county, and it will be able to tell them where dump trucks are located within a specified radius, may have to make a note of the number being a little off due to maintenance/update issues. How will you deal with credential issues? Put Kansas Identifier on it, local certification.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Pan Flu/Update delayed until later in the meeting.

### **Preparedness / HLS Grant Update**

**John Eichkorn**

A slide show presented information about the TY 2010 Homeland Security Grant Program.

- State strategy: how to use local resources to respond to emergencies.
- July 13th workshop
- Homeland security strategy was approve (outlined in letter on slide)
- Strengths: overall good, more focused approach. The last strategy included 18 goals; this strategy put that number down to 6.
- KDOC and SAIC helped out with what needed. Also, KDHD put a lot of work in.
- Needs for improvement: dates - did not include dates telling when aspects of goals would be met (didn't want to be pinned down when exactly will be done). Also, the strategy should focus on more than just the grant funding itself. Will work with partners more closely to enhance areas.

- To do: have ESF leads look at state strategy, see where at - in order to improve areas and match guidelines in a timely matter.
- 6 state goals on slide
- The FY 2010 grant program is seeing grant dollars come down in value, not same amount as came in the past.
- Not a competitive grant this year as has been the case in the past therefore the amount areas will receive is already known. Because of this, traveling state discussing with regions how much they have.
- Grant due April 19th
- Regional projects overview: working on enhancing towers to be compliant. Western last to get improvements, cuts have forced improvements to be put off - some regions therefore are taking own money to get done
- SE region helped SW get towers. Regions acting as one of the whole state. NE region using 08' leftover money combined with FY 2010 Funding to finish tower
- SE region law enforcement agencies coming together to form own intelligence gathering team - hoping this will take off with other agencies as well
- State projects overview: Crisis City is funding a position to plan facility and make operational. Safe school initiatives. Fusion Center Analyst - Multi State Partnership where work together to share resources, fund activities.

#### Questions:

Sandy Johnson asked - what projects can fund using state money? Towers cost \$250,000 each. Are those regions putting in a big portion for own projects? NW did all, SW did one by themselves. Sherman, Graham, and Stevens counties - FY '10 grant.

Paul Sasse asked - what is the way of prioritizing? How assign? Regional council make own decision on regions priorities.

Randy Duncan mentioned a problem of none of the projects identified problems addressed by GAP.

#### **Pan Flu/H1N1 Update**

#### **Richard Morrissey**

Morrissey started off by asking addressing the question 'what's going to happen next?' No one knows, but he can say where they think its going.

A slide show presented the update information.

- Second wave chart (on slides) - progressions are shown by flu seasons
- Use of the vaccine is still being promoted, H1N1 is not going away
- There was a peak in October in school absenteeism but has stayed at a more typical level since
- The reporting system will be kept up; the virus is not predictable.
- History shows pandemics occur in waves, half of KS population is still susceptible to this virus
- A third wave cannot be ruled out, not expected in summer (but that's what said last summer)
- Estimated immunity graph (people who have taken the vaccine or who have already had the virus) - amount could be higher due to people with asymptomatic versions of the virus
- No matter what is said on the internet/elsewhere, the vaccine has been proven to be safe and effective
- 889,000 vaccine doses in KS - typical flu vaccine doses 50,000 through central distribution.
- Coach Snyder has done public service announcements.
- Since the virus did not have as great as impact as expected, it has become difficult to convince people to take the vaccine.
- The virus did not mutate as much as could have.
- Compared transmissibility to measles, 5 or 6 times higher.
- Operations happened in 105 counties across the state.
- Hope to centralize disposal of the vaccine, simplify if don't have to do locally.
- The H1N1 vaccine will be included with the normal flu vaccines this year.
- Flu season peak is typically in February/March.

#### Questions:

Sandy Johnson asked - did that increase providers in the registry or were they already in? Yes, providers were capture for children's program.

Major General Tod Bunting (proxy) asked - what was the most surprising thing good or bad? The actual amount of the vaccine produced was much lower than estimated amounts.

John Prather asked - do you think a pandemic is better understood in a world order and will we respond in a better way next time? Yes, the memory is recent. People assume a pandemic means death - it doesn't.

Tim East asked - Do we know about Avian Flu? Still there, still a fear that it could cause a pandemic.

Jack Taylor asked - Were there any surprises in the university setting with this being more a young person's flu? Actually the universities were very responsive and had good procedures. According to the slide, several counties did not have any antiviral medicine? Some counties don't have retail pharmacies, slide reflects no mechanisms.

Major General Tod Bunting (proxy) asked - most deaths in the 50 age group? True, it was older. Their infection rate was low but one infected, the risk was higher.

Alice Weingartner mentioned the surprise of where the disease emerged from. A positive resulting from this - helped improve where surveillance stations are throughout the world.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **GIS Report and Demonstration**

**Jessica Frye**

Frye started off by mentioning that there would be no live demonstration. Also, they now have a GIS Response vehicle, part of integrated initiatives office. Now have a vehicle with four workstations in it.

A slide show presented information about the new GIS tool and screenshots.

- Training for GIS team response members takes place in June. Now have 15 members can send to disaster report.
- Several exercises have been completed with the new vehicle - highway patrol storing for now
- Regional projects: have been to all but 26 counties in the state - now visiting 23 additional counties
- Money has been set aside to do additional data collection - also interns will be hired
- Current working on data standards
- Kansas MAP Application does not end at KS border, can be used for other states but may not be as detailed
- Utility information has been added to the data; also connection with the NWS website will occur soon
- Latitude and longitude search/view is now included
- Several tools - search, zoom, identify location, etc.
- Tool for viewing Plume effects - put in chemical identifier, wind direction - shows area affected.
- Can also view nearby resources and shows directions to them
- Waiting on Department of Homeland Security to transfer data from GIS location to their location
- Virtual USA was discussed
- Next Gen 911 Grant - going to be big component in GIS mapping and data

#### Questions:

Mentioned that can provide a live demonstration on site if interested.

Jack Taylor asked - Who has access? Anyone at local jurisdiction as provided by county representative, also ESF leads, GIS people

Sandy Johnson asked - Are the data layers already in there? Not yet, need agreement before put the information in

### **Stop Movement Exercise Report**

**George Teagarden**

A slide show presented information about the activity description and pictures from the activity.

- Description: one of the first actions is to stop movements - in case of animal disease. The exercise is done to test this.
- Done to protect livestock industry and agriculture.
- Closed state borders, soon other states follow suit - done to prevent other states from being exposed
- Because of sheer number of checkpoints it is impossible to cover each one without help - cooperation with other states, law enforcement, counties is necessary
- Stop movement name inaccurate - more of a restrictive movement - control movement of animals
- Mixing strips - help identify spots faster for checkpoints
- People involved helped let drivers know that it just an exercise - no panic occurred
- In general it went well, some improvements needed - improve permit and letting drivers know - collect information

Questions:

Jack Taylor asked - what were the truckers that stopped impressions? Most were not unhappy, although a representative from Cargill did not want to do that again

Sandy Johnson remarked that it was a positive experience.

## **EPA Report**

**Fatima Ndiaye (proxy)**

There was a handout (in packet) that detailed the information about the EPA report. In it, there was information about toxic release data - Hydrogen Sulfide was the highest reported. A webinar will occur once a month (probably). The next one is next week. Also, a stakeholders meeting to find out what's going on in other states was originally scheduled for the 11th to the 13th but has been pushed back to the 18th to the 20th.

Questions:

John Prather asked - what is Hydrogen Sulfides typical origin? Refineries, large scale - Morris County

## **EAS Plan Update**

**Jonathan York**

A slide show presented information about the plan and what revisions should occur.

- Needs to be revised
- The slides described what it is
- EAS Committee goal is to maintain EAS plan
- Another goal is to broaden information and outlets for that information - possibly cell phone text messages
- State primary is WIBW
- Recommend revisal of EAS charter to include KEMA, APCO, and KSA

Questions:

Sandy Johnson commented on the size of the committee not being effective - too large. Is it possible to consider putting state level members on the committee? Yes more people, more choices.

Patricia Eakes asked - Will people with disabilities be represented? Part of CAP is how to get message out to someone who is vulnerable (can't see, hear, etc.)

Jack Taylor recommended looking at the membership structure, revising, and bringing the presentation back for next meeting.

Tim East countered with - isn't this an important issue? Should it wait? Jack agrees with Sandy, the committee size is too large. Jonathan York thought it would be feasible to wait - still need to purchase adapter, get new list of broadcasters - doesn't mind restructuring and bringing back.

Tim East mentioned that he has been involved in this, but if Jonathan is comfortable with bringing it back then it will give more time for checking - putting into place. As long as it is before CAP comes out in the summer.

Randy Duncan mentioned that an existing version of CAP is out now - just being update. CAP is more focused on technical issues than procedural ones. [Current CAP 1.1 - update 1.2]

Sandy Johnson asked - will there be cellular phone representation if going to have cellular providers? Randy Duncan pointed out that integrated public warning system just deals with federal level (not state or local) - but standards are pushed down

## **First Biennial HLS Summit Evaluation**

**Danny Hay**

A slide show presented information about the summit and people involved.

- Looking for decision makers in process
- First time there has been a summit of this level
- The speakers gave real world, graphic presentations - very knowledgeable speakers
- Registration cost \$100 - very reasonable price for summit
- Next time the summit may be a 2 day format.

Questions:

Sandy Johnson asked - was the target audience met? Special invitations were supposed to be sent to specific people (didn't work out) so KU put the information online as an open conference. A pretty good mix of people showed up. Jack Taylor commented that there was a pretty good cross-section.

John Prather commented that he thought it was a very good value for the cost, hopes of an increase in private sector awareness of the event next time.

Randy Duncan asked - did the target audience not include an emergency management? The target audience did include emergency management - just forgot to put on slide.

**Fatima Ndiaye introduced guests - members of the EPA.**

**Next Meeting: May 26, 2010 at Crisis City, Salina**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55pm.



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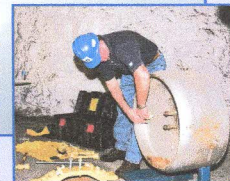
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## The TRANSCAER® Program

### WHAT IS TRANSCAER?

TRANSCAER® (Transportation Community Awareness & Emergency Response) is a voluntary national outreach effort which assists communities that have major transportation routes within their jurisdiction and addresses potential community concerns about the transportation of hazardous materials. TRANSCAER assists in the development and evaluation of community emergency response plans for hazmat transportation.

TRANSCAER is sponsored by the chemical manufacturing and transportation industries.



It is an inter-industry effort comprised of representatives who reach out to communities and assist them in their hazmat transportation emergency preparedness activities.

TRANSCAER is a partnership between all those involved in the transportation of hazardous materials and the community.

TRANSCAER provides a coordinated industry effort for communities along hazmat transportation routes. TRANSCAER participants are organized at the state level, and work with communities within the state that have hazmat transportation routes.

*Effective emergency response begins with planning and preparation.  
This is what the TRANSCAER initiative is all about.*

### OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Promote safe transportation and handling of hazardous materials
- Educate and assist communities near major transportation routes about hazardous materials
- Aid community emergency response planning for hazardous material transportation incidents



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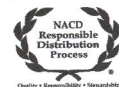
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